

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/021,374

Examiner

JAMES C. KERVEROS

Applicant(s)

STONG ET AL

Art Unit

2138

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address-

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to AMENDMENT filed 10/11/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-6, 8-12 and 26-32. Renumbered as Claims 1-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

ALBERT DECADY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/9/2005 has been entered.

This is a Notice of Allowance in response to Amendment filed 10/11/2005.

Claims 1, 7, 13-19, 20-25 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-6,8-12 and 26-32 are allowed. Renumbered as Claims 1-17.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with William S. Francos on January 17, 2006.

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The Claims have been amended as follows:

Claim 26, on line 1, added —comprising—after “apparatus”.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior arts of record taken alone or in combination fail to teach, anticipate, suggest or render obvious the claimed invention for an apparatus and method recited in the independent Claims 26 and 31, as currently amended, including inter alia, “an integrated circuit having a memory element, the memory element having at least one deterministic operation and at least one non-deterministic operation controllable by at least two control lines”.

Consequently, 2-6,8-12 and 26-32 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Pertinent Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hangartner (U.S. Patent No. 6,463,422) discloses a probabilistic computing system (PCS) for providing the computational functionality needed to efficiently realize

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randomized computing methods, including a nondeterministic logic subsystem for generating a set of random boolean values of the variables as a first proposed solution to the stored computing problem. Testing circuitry is coupled to the memory and to the nondeterministic logic means for testing whether the first set of random boolean values satisfies the stored computing problem. Hangartner's testing circuitry is for testing whether the first set of random boolean values satisfies the stored computing problem, while Applicant's invention is to stimulate only deterministic operations when in a test enabled condition.

Therefore, Hangartner fails to disclose "a memory element having at least one deterministic operation and at least one non-deterministic operation controllable by at least two control lines, wherein the test enable signals logically combine with the control lines to stimulate only deterministic operations when in a test enabled condition."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES C. KERVEROS whose telephone number is (571) 272-3824. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

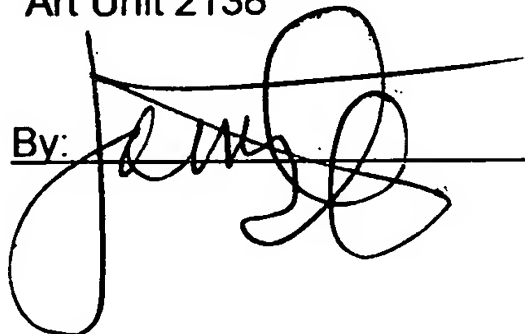
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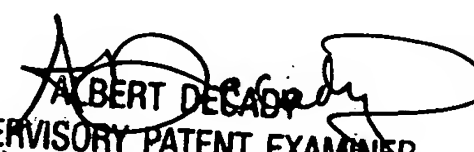
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Date: 27 January 2006
Office Action: Allowance

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Art Unit 2138

By: 


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